

My Lord Lucas

HIS

Reads

SPEECH

IN THE

House of Peers, Feb. the 22. 167.

UPON

The Reading of the Subdy BILL

the second Time, in the pre-

sence of his

MAJESTY:

Aude aliquid brevibus, Oyaris & Carcere dignum
Si vis esse aliquis Probitas laudatur & alger.

JUVENAL SAT. I

MIDDLEBURG.

Printed, in the Year, MDCLXXIII.

To the Reader.

Reader;

III

I Need not tell you that this Speech was burnt by the hand of the Commons, being done in a publick Place, to the great grief and dishonour of all True-Englishmen; to whom my Lord Lucas his Loyalty to his Prince, and his inviolable Love to his Country, was abundantly manifested.

But I dare affirm this Barbarous usage did so little discourage him from doing his Duty, that he would have submitted himself to the same Fate, if his Death might have prevented these approaching Calamities and evil Counsels, which have since been so fatally destructive to this poor Kingdome. But God has taken him from an ungrateful Generation, and from the Evil to Come, and left us to lament the loss of so worthy a Patriot; for now he is gone, who shall shew his Sacred Majesty, those dreadful Precipices, whereon French Fraud and Popish Malice has placed him? From whence they daily expect him only so far to fall, but to dash himself in pieces.

Who shall tell the House of Peers by what Generous Steps their Ancestors ascended to those Immortal Titles of Honour and Renown?

And who shall tell the House of Commons, of their profuse and Lavish squandering the Wealth and Liberties of this now Weak and Perishing (but once Mighty and Invincible) People.

If none are left amongst us that dare imitate the Vertues of this Noble Lord, I hope that there are some that will venture to Read his SPEECH, and if they have any Relicks of Vertue, and of a Pious Love to their Country, I am confident it will give them a New Soul; and inflame them with a Generous Desire of doing that for their Country, which this Just and truly Honourable Lord intended; if an unhappy Death had not prevented him.

THE END

Farewel

Printed by J. Sturges, at the Sign of the Gun, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, near St. Dunstons Church, in London.

My

My Lord Lucas's Speech, &c.

My Lords,

WHEN by the Providence of Almighty God, this Nation recalled His Majesty to the Exercise of the Royal Power; it was the hope of all good men, That we should not only be restored to his Majesty's Royal presence and Divine Laws, but we should be free from those heavy Burthens, under which we had layn so long oppress'd; We did believe that from henceforth every man should sit under his own Vine, enjoying the Fruits of Peace and Plenty; and *Absra* her self, long since for the sins of men fled up to Heaven, should have been invited by his Majesty's most Gracious and Happy Reign, to return hither and dwell with us and converse here amongst Mortals again.

But alas! we are fallen very short of our expectations, and our Burthens are so far from being made lighter to us, that they are heavier than ever they were; and as our Burthens are increased, so our strength also is diminished, and we are less able to support them.

In the Times of the late *Usurping Power*, although great Taxes were exacted from us, we had then means to pay them, we could sell our Lands, our Corn and Cattle, and there was plenty of Money throughout the Nation; now there is nothing of this, *Brick is required of us and no Straw allowed to make it with.* For that our Lands are thrown up and Corn and Cattle are of little value, is notorious to all the World.

And it is evident that there is scarcity of Money, for all the Parliament money called *Breeches*, (a fit Stamp for the Coyn of the Realm) is wholly vanished, the Kings Proclamation and the *Dutch*, have swept it all away, and of his now Majesty's Coyn, there appears but very little, so that in effect we have none left for Common use, but a little old *Lean* coined Money, of the late three former Princes, and what Supply is preparing for it my Lords? I hear of none, unless it be of Copper Farthings, and this is the Metal that is to *Indian* according to the Inscription on it, *The Dominion of the four Seas.*

And yet if amidst this scarcity, the vast Sums given were all employed for the King and Kingdom, it would not so much trouble us: But we cannot without infinite Regret of Heart, see so great a part of it pounded up in the Purles of other private men, and see them flourish in *Estates*, who at the Time of his *Majesties* most happy *Restauration*, were worth very little or nothing; and now the same Men purchase *Lands* and keep their *Coach* and *Six Horses*, their *Pages* and their *Lacquies*; while in the mean time those that have faithfully served the King, are exposed to *Penury* and *want*, and scarce sufficient left to buy them *Bread*.

And is this my *Lords* the reward of our *Services*? have we for this born the *Heat* of the Day, been Imprisoned, Sequestered, ventured our *Lives* and *Families*, our *Estates* and our *Fortunes*? And must we after all, this *Sacrifice* so much of our poor *Remainder* to the *Will* of a few particular men, and to the maintenance of their *Kauiques*.

But suppose all the *Money* given were employed for the Use of his *Majesty*, and his *Majesty* were not Couzened (as without doubt he is) is there no bound to or *Moderation* in giving? will you say that if we shall not plentifully Supply his *Majesty*, he will not be able to defend us, or to maintain the *Treple League*? And we shall thereby run the *Hazzard* of being *Conquered*.

'Tis true, my *Lords* that this may be a *Reason* for giving something. But 'tis so far from being an *Argument* for giving so much, that it may be clearly made out to your *Lordships*, that it is the surest and ready way to be *Conquered* by a *Foreigner*. And it may be the policy of the *French King*, by those open *Alarms* of *Armies* and *Fleets* to induce us to consume our *Treasure* in vain *Preparations* against him; And after he has by this means made us poor and weak enough, he may then come upon us and *Destroy* us.

'Tis not my *Lords*, the giving of a great deal, but the well managing of the *Money* given, that must keep us safe from our *Enemies*. Your *Lordships* may be pleased to call to mind the Story of *Sampson*, who while he preserved his *Hair* where his *Strength* lay, was still *Victor* over his *Enemies*; But when by the enticement of his *Delilah*, his *Hair* was cut off, the *Philistines* came upon him, and overcame him; And so my *Lords*, if we shall preserve and husband well our *Treasure* wherein our *Strength* and the *Sinews* of *War* lie, and apply it to the right Uses, we shall still be *Superiour* to all our *Enemies*; but if we shall vainly and imprudently mis-Spend it we shall become an ealie prey to them.

Besides my *Lords*, what is this but a *Ne moriari Mori*, and for fear of being

being conquered by a *Foreigner*, put our selves into a condition almost as bad, pardon me *my Lords*, if I say in some Respects a great deal worse; for when we are under the Power of the *Villor*, we know we can fall no lower; and the certainties of our *Miseries* are some kind of diminution of them: But in this *wild way* we have no certainty at all, for if you give thus much to day, you may give as much more to morrow, and never leave giving till we have given all that ever we have away, and the Anxiety of mind which arises from this doubtful *Estate*, is an high Addition to our Afflictions.

All that we Beg *my Lords*, is that we may be able to make some Estimate of our selves; would his *Majesty* be pleased to have a quarter of our *Estates*, for my part he shall Have it; would his *Majesty* be pleased to have half, for my part upon a good occasion he shall Have it: But I beseech your *Lordships* then that we may have some assurance of the quiet enjoyment of the Remainder, and know what we have to trust to.

My Lords, the *Commons* have here sent us up a *Bill* for the giving his *Majesty* the twentieth part of our *Estate* at the full extended Value, and I hear there are other *Bills* for *Money* also preparing, which together according to the best computation, will amount to little less than three Millions of *Money*; a prodigious Summ, and such that if your *Lordships* shall not afford Relief, we must of necessity sink under the weight of so heavy a *Presure*.

My Lords the *Scripture* tells us that God Almighty sets bounds unto the Ocean, and says unto it, *Hither shall thy proud Waves come and no further*. And so I hope your *Lordships* in imitation of the Divinity will set some Bounds, some Limits to this over Liberal Humour of the *Commons*, and say to them *Hither shall your Profuseness come and no further*.

My Lords, supposing your *Lordship* can deny or moderate a *Bill* for *Money* coming from the *Commons*, or if you cannot, all your great *Estates* are wholly at their disposal, and your *Lordships* have nothing that you can properly call your own, and then let us pass this *Bill* without further Examination. But if you can deny or moderate (as without Question you can) your *Lordships* never had, nor possibly will have such a fair Occasion to shew it.

My Lords, upon the whole matter, I most humbly propose to your *Lordships*, that your *Lordships* will be pleased to reduce the 12d. in the Pound to 8d. And truly *My Lords*, I have some reason to hope that if your *Lordships* will duly reflect upon it, ye will find it fit to do accordingly;

accordingly; for in the first place it will be so far from being a *service* to his Majesty, that your Lordships will do his Majesty in it the highest Service in the World, for although ye shall thereby take from his Majesty a part of the Sum, you will give him a great deal more in the Love and Hearts of his Subjects; and there his Majesty must Reign if he will be Great and Glorious.

And next your Lordships acquire to your selves eternal Honour ye shall thereby in dear your selves to the whole Nation, who for the future will look upon you as the Ancients did upon their Titular Gods; nor shall the House of Commons but the House of Peers, be hereafter Precious in their Sight.

My Lords give me leave to mind your Lordships, that Noble Acts are the Steps whereby the Great men of the World ascend the Throne of Glory. And can there be a nobler Act to Release a distressed Kingdom, which lyes languishing under so many hard Oppressions, and about to be so much more oppressed.

I do detain your Lordships too long, and therefore shall say no more, but must beg your Lordships Pardon, and submit all to your Better Judgements.

Reader, I shall give you a short though not a full Account of the Mischiefs happened since this Speech.

1. The Swift Alliance with France.

2. Shutting up the Exchequer.

3. Breach of the Triple League, and the present War with Considerate the States of the Low Countries.

4. Fall of Lands, and decay of Trade.

5. Sending so great Forces to France, under the French and Popish Commanders, to be debauched in their Religion, and thereby to introduce an arbitrary Power at Home.

6. Our Losses at Sea, by Privateers, amounting to at least two Millions.

7. Corrupting of Members of Parliament.

8. Drunken and debauch'd Elections.

9. Oppression

9. *Oppression in Quartering of Soldiers.*
10. *Pressing of Englishmen to serve in the Wars out of the Nation.*
11. *Loss of many Thousands of our Seamen in this Pillage War.*
12. *Making Papists, Atheists, and French Pensioners, Ministers of State.*
13. *Great Consumption of the Treasure of the Nation by the Privy Purse.*
14. *Sending Ignorant and ill-affected Embassadors abroad.*
15. *Debauching the Nation by Masquerades,*
16. *Favour shown to Papists at Court.*
17. *Continuing Sallaries to those that refus'd to abjure Transubstantiation.*
18. *Dissention at Sea between Protestant and Popish Officers.*
19. *Incouragement of Popery in Ireland, notwithstanding the late Addresses of Parliament.*
20. *Defrauding of our Seamen of their Pay.*
21. *Great and Grievous Taxes, notwithstanding our Grievous Poverty.*
22. *Suspending of Penal Laws against the Popish Priests and Jesuits.*
23. *Loss of the Dominion of the Sea by the Treachery of the ENGLISH.*
His Highness refusing the Tests for prevention of Popery, and Marrying a Papist (Neice to a Cardinal) to the great strengthening of the Popish and French Interest at home and abroad.
25. *Making a French Lieutenant General to the great Dishonour of the English Nobility.*
26. *Making French Carwel an English Dutchess, to the great Disgrace of the Ladies and Gentlewomen of this Nation.*

This was Printed in haste, but I intend shortly to make it appear, that the Money: given to his Majesty by the Parliament, since his blessed Restoration; amounts to more then this Poor Kingdoms is now worth,

FINIS.

9. Opinion in Committee of 21st Nov.
10. Report of Committee to the House of Commons of the 21st Nov.
11. List of names of persons who have been named.
12. Addressing Papers, Address, and French Papers, Address of State.
13. Great Commission of the Treaty of the Nation to the King's High.
14. Standing Government and Addressed French Papers.
15. Addressing the Nation by Addressed.
16. Addressing the Nation by Addressed.
17. Continuing Addressing to the Nation to advise Treaty Addressing.
18. Discussion on the Addressing and Addressing Office.
19. Addressing of the Nation to the Nation, continuing the Nation.
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